

Study Guide - 26 April, 2020

Series: Giving

Text: 2 Corinthians 9:6-15



This guide will help you facilitate a clear understanding of the Bible passage with a focus on applying God's truth to our lives together. You should spend at least half your time discussing questions that are application focused. Look at the Big Idea and What your CG Must Take Away sections at the beginning of the guide to keep the discussion focused.

Introduction and Series Overview

The aim of the Redeeming Relationship series is to help us understand the various roles we play relationally, and how each of these is to be done under God empowered by the gospel. This gives us a proper framework for both redeeming broken relationships and relating to others, and how to generally relate to church members in a way that builds them up. It also helps us understand our own hearts and each other in relationships so that we can be compassionate and clear with them, as well as specific relationships that people find themselves in family, marriage, kids, work, etc.

Context of 2 Cor 8-9

There are believers who are struggling in Jerusalem (Rom 15v25, 1 Cor 16v1-4, Gal 2v9-10). In Gal 2v9-10, Paul was instructed to remember the poor in his ministry, particularly the Christians in need. This was told to him when he was in Jerusalem for the council of Jerusalem, and approved for ministry. In Rom 15v25, Paul says he is going past Jerusalem to bring aid to the saints in need. In 1 Cor 16v1-4 Paul says the church is to set aside some money every week which can be sent as a gift to Jerusalem. This is what our text in 2 Cor 8-9 relates to.

Goal of series

For your CG to develop a sense of generosity that is motivated by grace. For your group to be willing to pour out their lives and finances for the kingdom advancing, through generosity towards fellow CG members, the rest of RHC and the global church at large.

Big idea

God's grace motivates and enables us so that we can give generously, knowing that our generosity reaps many fruits of righteousness that glorify God.

What your CG must take away from this study

For your CG to give cheerfully, knowing generosity is a demonstration of God's saving grace and builds up the body of Christ.

Q1. The passage today aims to encourage us to give cheerfully. What does it mean to be “a cheerful giver”? (v7) What does it not mean?

Q2. How does God’s grace enable us to give generously? (v8, 10-11)

Q3. Verse 10 tells us God provides us with both bread and seed. What is the difference between seed and bread? Which of these does God promise to multiply? (V10-11)

Q4. How might we misuse the seed God has given for us to bless others as bread for ourselves?

Q5. In v9, Paul cites Psalm 112:9. Skim Psalm 112: what are some characteristics of this person? Why does he give generously?

Q6. Paul tells us that if we sow bountifully we will reap bountifully (v6), and that we will reap a harvest of righteousness (v10). What are some aspects of this harvest that the believers will reap in v12-14?

Q7 Why does Paul use the phrase “harvest of righteousness?” How does our generosity link to our righteousness?

Q8. How have you seen generosity result in God’s glory? (v12-14)

Q9. Paul talks about a “submission that comes from your confession of the gospel of Christ.” How does the gospel enable us to be generous and change the way we think about giving? (V13, 15)

Q10. Even though we are living in a difficult time, we are significantly better off than the Corinthian church in the first century. How can we demonstrate generosity in a challenging time like this?